

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

With this amendment, claims 1-13, and 15-20 are pending. Claims 13 and 15 are amended. Claim 14 is canceled. None of the amendments made herein constitute new matter.

In the Office Action of July 23, 2007, claims 1-12, 19 and 20 are indicated as allowed; Claims 13 and 18 are rejected; and claims 14-17 are objected to.

Claim 13 is amended by incorporating the limitations of claim 14.

Claim 14 is canceled as redundant in view of the change made to claim 13.

Claim 15 is amended to change claim dependency from canceled claim 14 to claim 13.

Claim Rejections

Claims 13 and 18 are rejected as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2004/0054311 ("Sterling") under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), and claims 14-17 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. The Office indicates Claims 14-17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the interest of furthering prosecution, Applicant has incorporated claim 14 in claim 13 and accordingly canceled claim 14 without prejudice. In view of the amendment presented herein, it is believed the rejection over Sterling is obviated. Accordingly, Applicant requests the rejection be withdrawn. As the objected claims 15-17 depend from claim 13, Applicant requests that objection be withdrawn. Because claim 18 depends from claim 13, Applicant requests the 102(e) rejection of claim 18 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes the pending claims are allowable and requests the application proceed to allowance. Applicant understands that no fee is due. If this is incorrect, please charge any deficiency under the foregoing to deposit account no. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,

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